



# Arizona Department of Public Safety

**- For Immediate Release -**

Wednesday, November 21, 2007

## **Arizona Department of Public Safety seizes 856 Pounds of Marijuana, 29.5 Pounds of Cocaine, 19.5 Pounds of Methamphetamine and \$159,000 in Cash in One Week!**

In what surely will be a record breaking week, Arizona Department of Public Safety Officers, through a series of random traffic stops, took thousands of dollars in drug cash, hundreds of pounds of Marijuana, nearly 20 pounds of Methamphetamine and almost 30 pounds of Cocaine off of highways in Arizona in just one week.

The traffic stops occurred statewide and began on November 16<sup>th</sup> when a DPS Officer stopped a vehicle for speeding on Interstate 40 near Flagstaff. A probable cause search revealed 408 pounds of marijuana in the vehicle.

Then, on November 19<sup>th</sup>, a Toyota four-door sedan was stopped by a DPS Officer for speeding in a construction zone on Interstate 10 near Picacho Peak. Two men bailed out of the vehicle. A search of the vehicle resulted in the discovery of 400 pounds of Marijuana. The two men were later captured and booked into the Pima County Jail.

On November 20<sup>th</sup>, a Honda was stopped by a DPS Officer on Interstate 10 near Casa Grande for following too close. A search revealed 19.5 pounds of Methamphetamines located in two compartments. The driver was taken into custody.

Also on November 20<sup>th</sup> along Interstate 10 near Casa Grande, a DPS traffic stop revealed a bag underneath a vehicle's spare tire that contained \$100,000 in cash. A second bag inside the same vehicle held \$59,000 in cash and was found hidden inside groceries. The suspect driving the vehicle was arrested for money laundering.

Later that same day in roughly the same area, a Dodge Dakota was stopped for a hazardous violation. With assistance from DPS Canine "D.K.", a false compartment behind the radio was located. Inside were 13 bundles of Cocaine weighing 29.5 pounds.

A few hours later a traffic stop along Interstate 10 near Picacho Peak resulted in the seizure of 48.5 pounds of marijuana.

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